Whether Common or Not.



Depressional.

A plague upon the bloomin' Boers
Who chase us over veldt and kop;
Who make us long for native shores
And keep us ever on the hop.
Save us from Botha and Dewet,
Let we regret—lest we regret.

The tumult never seems to die;
In vain our leaders still proclaim;
Those scrappy Boers go riding by;
Still deadly is their rifle aim;
Still led by Botha and Dewet,
To our regret—to our regret.

Land-locked, our navy cannot aid;
We're forced to fight midst chill and damp;
And starving mother, wife and maid
Are all we gather into camp.
The sturdy men are fighting yet,
To our regret—to our regret.

While drunk with thought of power we sought
To bite off more than we could chew.
The bitter dose that then we caught
Will last us for a year or two.**
We've had enough, but we're here yet,
To our regret—to our regret.

In reeking tube and iron shard,
There is a time in which it must
Submit to throw-down good and hard.
We started out with brag and blow—
Say, when—when homeward shall we go?

O, when?

*With humble apologies to Rudyard Kipling and General Lord Kitchener.

**Perhaps three or four.

Welcome, Nevertheless.

"Here's a shocking bit of news."

"What is it?"

"Czolgosz has been found guilty."

"There's nothing shocking about that."

"Yes, there is. He will be electrocuted."

∞ Objected.

Marie—"While I was coming up the steps an impudent fellow tried to kodak me. Really this impudence is becoming too burdensome. Something should be done to stop it."

Sallie—"Why do you object to be kodaked?"

Marie—"Because one never knows whether
one's hat is on straight when a camera fiend
takes an unexpected snap shot."

Pashlon Note.

Put away Sophronia's netwaist—
'Round her chilly winds do steal,
And she now is working papa
For a jacket made of seal.

New Amusement.

"Hello, Jones! Building air castles?"
"Nope. Air ships."

A Modern Hero.

He bade his friends a glad good-bye,
Yet with a hero's stern command
Of feelings as he gazed about
Upon his gallant little band.
When shades of night fell o'er the earth
They bore him home as on a shield,
For he had won undying fame
Upon the bloody football field.

Aunt Lib's View.

"I've been readin' th' papers," remarked Aunt Lib, looking up from her knitting, "an' I notice

The Commoner.

that th' naval officers that wus never nearer the battle of Santiago than the chart room of th' naval bureau are tellin' just how it should a-been fought. That's always th' way with th' world. Th' man that never does is always th' man that could a-done it better."

Curious Customs.

Snagglsley—"A curious custom prevails in Korea. If a man meets his wife on the street he fignores her presence entirely and passes her as if she were a stranger."

Baggsley—"Nothing curious about that. We've got a custom very much like it."

Snaggsley-"What is it?"

Baggsley—"In this country we treat our creditors the same way when we meet 'em on the street—that is, if we can't dodge 'em."

The Pressing Problem.

"Tis not grave problems of the state
That at this moment doth concern us.
We ponder till the hour is late
Upon the greed insatiate
Of our confounded furnace.

Pessimist.

"Why do you call Binks a pessimist?"

"O, because Binks believes that the best he gets is always the worst of it."

-Will M. Maupin.

Overmeyer on Anarchy.

The Kansas City Times publishes the following article from the pen of one of the veteran democrats of Kansas, Hon. David Overmeyer:

"I have long known that there are people calling themselves anarchists who do not believe in murder or violence. The time has come, however, when these should change their name. Anarchy was always a bad name for people who want peace and who yearn for a platonic age. They adopted that name after it had gained an evil significance. If they look forward to Utopia or to the millennium, they might call themselves 'Utopians' or 'Millennialists.' If they favor the idea of non-resistance to evil they might be 'Tolstoians.' The word 'anarchy' should be blotted from the vocabulary of civilization.

"But while there are avowed anarchists who do not practice destructive anarchy, there are also people who do not avow themselves anarchists who really are such. Every officer who violates his oath or who violates the constitution; every officer or person who is willing to resort to mob rule or to withhold even from anarchists their lawful right to fair trial under the law; all of the countless persons and institutions who evade and disregard the law and cheat justice knowingly; all who cover up lawlessness by coercing dependent employes to commit perjury in their interests; congresses and legislatures who pass knowingly unconstitutional statutes and courts that pervert justice; all these are anarchists in fact.

"The disease of the age is lawlessness. If it would only cease in high places it would be comparatively easy to stop it in low places.

"I believe that there should be an act of congress to protect the life of the president and other high officials in the line of succession to the presidency and to protect the nation from the indignity and humiliation attending the assassination or attempted assassination of its highest officials.

"I cannot agree with General Grosvenor, that no legislation is necessary. I do, however, agree with him that these assaults upon the president do not constitute treason under the constitution as it is. And I further agree with him that no constitutional amendment is necessary. The power of congress is in my judgment ample. It would be strange indeed if this nation should be found powerless to protect its own head.

"This matter has, in my judgment, been settled by the supreme court of the United States. Some years ago David Nagle, a deputy marshal of the United States, killed Judge Terry in California in a defense of the person of Mr. Justice Field of the supreme court, upon whom Terry was making a murderous assault. The California authorities indicted Nagle for murder. Upon habeas corpus proceedings the supreme court of the United States held that Nagle should be discharged; that his act was justifiable. The court there laid down the rule that 'there is a peace of the United States,' and that in killing Terry, Nagle was keeping the peace of the United States.

this street

"Now, if a deputy United States marshal is authorized without an act of congress to keep the peace of the United States by the protection of the life of a high official of the United States, and if in keeping the peace he is authorized to use such force as is necessary, even to the taking of life, why may not the United States government itself, acting through its congress, pass an act for the protection of the lives of its high officials and for the preservation of the peace of the United States? And why may not the United States enforce such an act through its own judicial tribunals?

"Such an act should not be limited to actual assaults and murders, but the law should reach all who plot or conspire to assail or kill the principal officers of the government."

Items of Interest.



France has over 10,000 soldiers in Africa.

Paris cabmen are not allowed to smoke while driving.

One thousand seven hundred Indians in Arizona own farms.

California wants to market 800 carloads of peaches in the east.

In 1899 the French inheritance tax netted a revenue of \$38,387,700.

Tasmanians claim to be the soberest people in the Australian colonies.

There are 10,000 square miles of Alaska terri-

The United States consumes 1,220,000,000 gal-

A statistician figures that there are about 1,300,000 dogs in the United States.

The kitchens of the Shah of Persia, at Teheran, are furnished at a cost of \$4,000,000.

After a long investigation it is reported that one man in every six in the British navy is a total abstainer.

In 1900 the British Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children secured the conviction and punishment of nearly 3,000 culprits.

South Dakota has more Indians than any other state, the number being 11,000. Arizona has 25,000 and the Indian Territory 56,000.

When the United States collier Brutus arrived in New York from Manila recently it was flying a homeward bound pennant 278 feet long.

The world's greatest single crop is potatoes. The average annual supply is 4,000,000,000 bushels, equalling in bulk the combined wheat and corn crops.

When the Jungfrau railroad is completed it will be the most remarkable one in the world. It's highest station will be 13,668 feet above sea level

Russia relies on her climate as one of her chief defenses against a foreign foe. The Russian troops are especially well trained in winter evolutions. It was a Russian winter that turned Napoleon back from Moscow.

Ants are creating havor on the brick paved streets of Council Bluffs, Ia. The ants burrow into the sand under the bricks and carry it away to unknown quarters. As a result the streets soon become too rough to permit of travel.

Forest Park has been chosen for the site of the Louisiana Purchase exposition. It is the largest and finest park in St. Louis. It is reached by practically all the cross-town lines of street railway and six steam roads run in close proximity. It is watered by the Des Perez river and six small tributaries. Much of the park is in a natural condition.